



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

art News LETTER

FEBRUARY 2009

SPOTLIGHT

Content

SPOTLIGHT:
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
LITERARY ARTS EVENTS

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

CALL TO ARTISTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS

PUBLIC ART

COMMISSIONERS &
DCCA STAFF

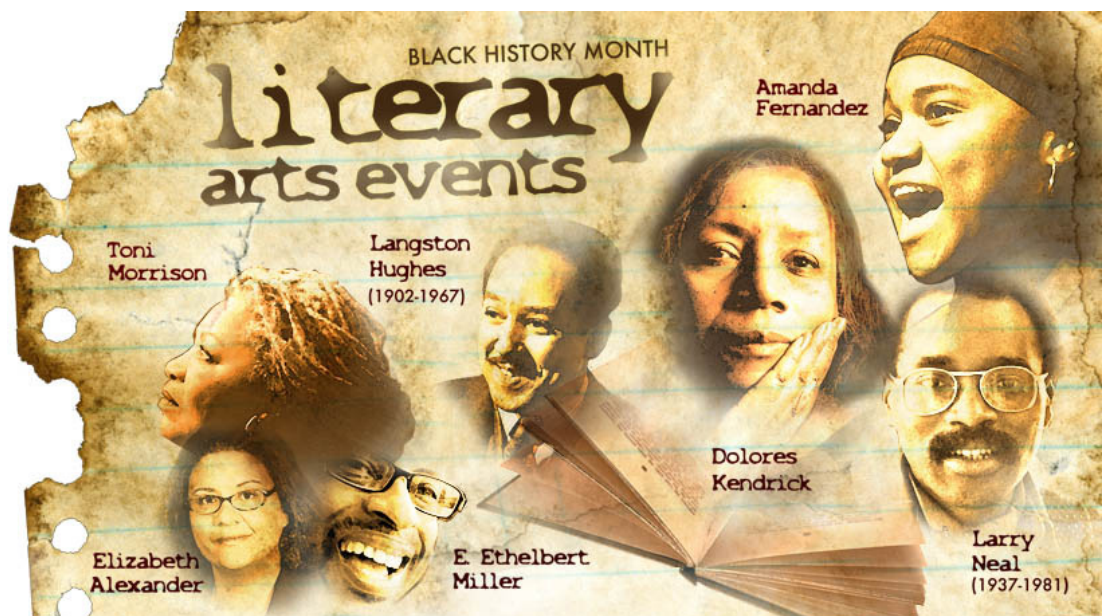


DC COMMISSION ON
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

1371 Harvard St. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20009
(202) 724-5613
(202) 724-4493
TTY/TDD
www.dccarts.dc.gov



ADRIAN M. FENTY, MAYOR
District of Columbia



BLACK HISTORY MONTH LITERARY ARTS EVENTS

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is proud to promote the District's literary arts scene during Black History Month and beyond. With the election of President Barack Obama, DC is alive with change, inspiration and artistic expression. Delve into world-class literary excellence as icons of past, living legends of today and the voice of youth share their respective art forms at special events across the District. The agency calendar serves as a community resource of art-related events for adults and families.

Toni Morrison

Former Howard graduate and professor
A Daughter's Return: The fiction of Toni Morrison
Blackburn Center @ Howard University
February 13, 2009, 9am-5pm

Dolores Kendrick

Poet Laureate of the District of Columbia
Poet in Progress
International Student House
February 22, 2009, 2:00pm

E. Ethelbert Miller

Director of the African-American Resource Center at Howard University
Poetry Reading
Library of Congress
February 23, 2009, 12:00 noon

Amanda Fernandez

Poetry Out Loud, National Champion 2007
Woolly Mammoth Theatre
February 23, 2009 at 5:30 pm

Marita Golden, Author
It's All Love by Marita Golden
Langston Room at Busboys & Poets
February 24, 2009 at 6 pm

Elizabeth Alexander

Inaugural poet for President Barack Obama
Talk on Black Studies
Founders Library Browsing Room @ Howard University
February 25, 2009, 3:00pm

Larry Neal (1937-1981)

Former executive director of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities
Event: Larry Neal Writer's Competition
Deadline: Thursday March 19, 2009 at 7 pm
Learn more about the Larry Neal Writer's Competition

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCA)? DCCA is proud to provide funding in many areas. Right now, we have several grant opportunities! ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR PREPARATION OF THESE GRANTS!

Go to www.dcart.sdc.gov for more information:

ARTS TEACHING FELLOWSHIP AND ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS

- Teachers, schools, and artists
- DC Public Schools
- Public Charter Schools

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES:

ARTS TEACHING FELLOWSHIP
Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm

ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS
Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm

CONTACT:
Shyree.Mezick@dc.gov

SMALL PROJECTS PROGRAM

- Art presentations
- Marketing
- Assistance in fundraising, marketing and management
- Documentation of artistic activities through photography, brochures, portfolios and demo tapes
- Conferences, workshops or seminars that will enhance artistic and professional development

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Wednesday, February 25 at 7pm

WORKSHOP ASSISTANCE:
• **Wednesday, February 11**
at 12pm to 1:30pm
Commission Office
1371 Harvard St, NW
• **Wednesday, February 18**
at 6pm to 7:30pm
Honfluer Gallery
1241 Good Hope Rd, SE

CONTACT:
Ebony.Blanks@dc.gov

CAPITAL REGION TOURING PROGRAM

- Provides funding to District of Columbia presenters and venues to book performing artists included on the Touring Artist Roster of the Maryland State Arts Council
- Enhances artists' marketability beyond their home states
- Promotes artistic exchanges between Washington, DC and the state of Maryland
- Program guidelines and the MSAC Touring Artist Roster are available online under "Agency News" at www.dcart.sdc.gov and professional development

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Friday, March 6, 2009 at 7pm

CONTACT:
Charles.Barzon@dc.gov

CALL TO ARTISTS

6th ANNUAL DANCE DC FESTIVAL CALL TO ARTISTS

Gotta swing? Love to dance? Apply! We need a wide array of musicians and dancers to apply for traditional dance forms practiced by local area ensembles and artists. From hip-hop, salsa, swing and clogging, show us your dance form so we can share it with our city!

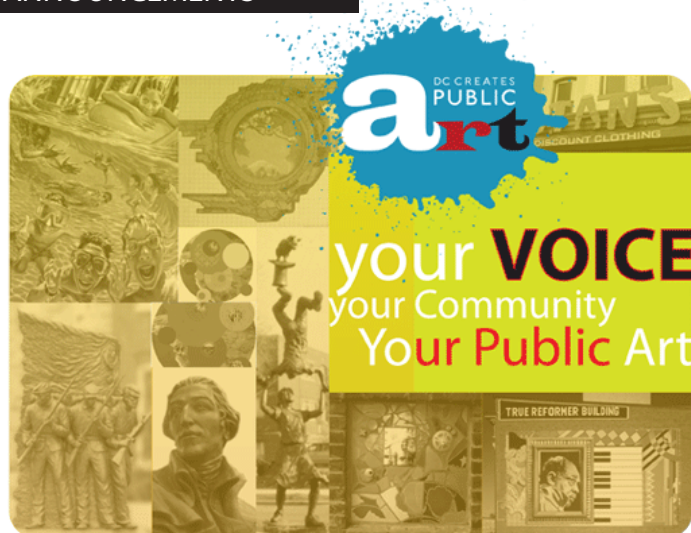
APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 7pm

CONTACT:
Ebony.Blanks@dc.gov

Mark your calendar
August 28 - 30, 2009
for Dance DC Festival performances!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



GET INVOLVED: OPEN HOUSE FOR DC'S PUBLIC ART COMMUNITY

Thinking of a Master Plan? We want visions, concepts and opinions about public art (murals, sculptures, installations) from the entire DC community! The public is invited to participate and share their thoughts on public art throughout the city and in their neighborhoods. The communities' ideas and input will be included in the overall DC Creates Public Art Program vision in the District of Columbia.

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Time: 5 pm-7 pm

Location: Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library 901 G Street, NW

Metro: Gallery Place-Chinatown (Red/Green/Yellow) and Metro Center (Red/Blue/Orange)

To RSVP and for more information call or email:

Deirdre Ehlen at (202) 724-5613 or Deirdre.Ehlen@dc.gov.

26TH ANNUAL LARRY NEAL WRITERS COMPETITION

Do you have pages unwritten? Put pen to paper and fill them with stories and poetry. This year the Larry Neal Writers Awards offers new ways to celebrate literacy.

NEW CATEGORY: For 2009 The Big Read - DC created a Special Recognition Award for Creative Expression. Dr. Anne Ashmore-Hudson, Chair, announced as part of "DC's 2009 Big Read celebration of Carson McCuller's *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, a special prize will be given in each age group to writers who compose respective essays on the theme of courage. In this work, McCuller exposes the limitations, prejudices, and frustrations of her community. Writers are asked to consider, in an essay, the ways in which they exhibit or not exhibited, courage in their own lives."

Other categories include:

Poetry, Short Story, Essay, and Dramatic Writing

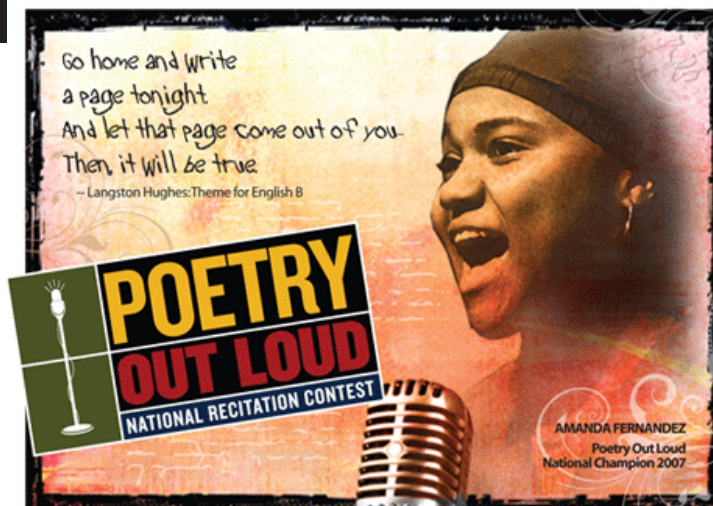
Larry Neal (1937-1981) was a, poet, essayist, editor, playwright, critic, filmmaker, folklorist, and one of the Black Arts movement's spiritual journeymen. He served as Executive Director of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities from 1976-1979.

The 2009 deadline for submitting works is **Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 7:00 pm.**

EVENTS

POETRY OUT LOUD: STATE FINALS HEAT UP DC!

Support 12 DC public high schools as students take the page to the stage. Poetry Out Loud brings out the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into one great night. Who will be the next Amanda Fernandez? Fernandez won not only the DC State Finals she also won the National championship.



Mark your calendar

Monday, February 23, 2009

5:30 pm

Woolly Mammoth

Theatre Company

641 D Street NW

Washington, DC 20004

CONTACT:

Ebony.Blanks@dc.gov



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

24TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD

Drums can be profoundly uplifting. The earliest percussive instruments were hands, feet, and hips; then the percussive qualities of "found" objects such as sticks and logs were discovered. Drums are the world's oldest and most ubiquitous musical instruments. This year, the Mayor's Arts Awards recognizes the drum and its capacity to unite the diverse arts communities of Washington, D.C.



Mark your calendar

Monday, March 23, 2009
6:00 PM
John F. Kennedy Center
for the Performing Arts
Concert Hall
Millennium Stage

CONTACT:
Artsawards@dc.gov

PUBLIC ART

HeArt OF DC: FREE TOUR OF THE CITY HALL ART COLLECTION

The public is invited to the Wilson Building for a guided tour through the City Hall public collection of art on permanent display on floors 1-5 of the Wilson building. The City Hall Collection, "HeArt of the City", has been assembled over the past two years under the sponsorship of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. It is the richest and largest permanent exhibition of the work of local artists in the city, featuring a broad range of work, from internationally known artists such as Jacob Kainen, Sam Gilliam and William Christenberry, to work by most of the artists of significance working in our area now. All styles and media are included. The collection truly provides a window into the scope of creative talent and energy that DC offers today. The tour is free, however space is limited.



Please RSVP to beth.baldwin@dc.gov with the number in your party. Meet at the receptionist's desk on the first floor near the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance - the building is located at 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW. ID is required to enter the building.

The tour will be led by Art Bank Coordinator, Beth Baldwin. Tours are offered quarterly the next tour will be **Wednesday, March 25, be at 12 p.m.** and by request.

"The Fountain", oil on canvas,
72" x 84" © 1981
by Michael Hunter



Josh Gibson © 2008
by Omri Amrany, Commissioned by
the DC Creates Public Art Program,
DCCA

NATIONALS BALLPARK HITS A HOME RUN WITH NEW ARTWORK!

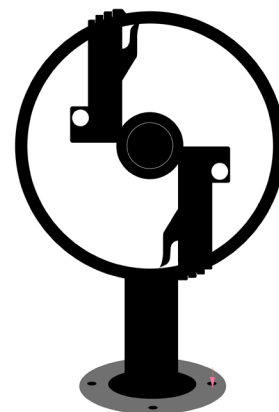
Energetic bronze figures will commemorate great legends in the history of baseball in Washington DC – Frank Howard, Josh Gibson and Walter Johnson. The DC Creates Public Art program of DCCA will dedicate two new public art works at the Nationals Ballpark. These exciting projects showcase public art to the approximately 2.5 million patrons attending baseball games at the Washington Nationals Ballpark each year. “Players spring after fly balls, make spectacular leaping catches, stop ground balls which are seemingly out of reach and hit pitched balls with their bats that travel faster than many cars,” Amrany says. The Ball Game, by Washington, DC artist Walter Kravitz, is a new public art work encompasses the spirit of the game and skill of its athletes. The piece is comprised of four suspended mobiles with approximately 48 hand-painted figures hanging in action. Each of the mobiles will rotate to a familiar, yet freshly composed tune of “Take Me Out to the Ballgame.”



The dragon bike rack design by
William Gordon

BETWEEN WORLDS: DC to CHI-Town

Simon Gouverneur acrylic on canvas painting, Two Toe, (1988) is temporarily leaving the DCCA Art Bank and headed to the critically-acclaimed Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA). Gouverneur, an African-American/Latino artist, (1934-1990) was a critically acclaimed abstract symbolist painter who attracted much attention in Washington, D.C., where he lived the last decade of his life. Gouverneur’s work was often respected yet dismissed by collectors and art dealers because it was deemed too intellectual, mystical, or difficult to sell. On the other hand, many artists, curators and writers considered Gouverneur an artist’s artist. His visionary and idiosyncratic vision was unable to be pigeonholed conveniently into any fashionable artistic discourse in the 1980s, a phenomenon that frustrated him greatly. Still, he refused to compromise his principles and continued to create the distinctive works. Gouverneur committed suicide in December 1990, but, his painting lives on during the Exhibit: Back to the Future: The Spiritual Evolution of Abstract Art September 19, 2009 – November 15, 2009 at LUMA in Chicago.



The hand bike rack design by
Carolina Mayorga



RACK IT UP! CALL FOR NEW BIKE RACK DESIGNS!

DCCA in collaboration with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and Councilmember Tommy Wells’ Office selected six designs that artistically enhance the standard U shaped bike racks. The artist’s whose designs were selected are: Matt Barinholtz (DC), Karin Edgett (DC), William Gordon (VA), Carolina Mayorga (DC), Melinda Merinsky (DC) and Joe Sutliff (VA). The bike racks will be placed in various locations throughout the city, including Chinatown, Eastern Market, Capital Riverfront and NoMa. The artistic bike racks are currently being fabricated and will be installed in the spring.

“Two-Toe”, egg tempra, acrylic/canvas, 61”x 61” © 1988
by Simon Gouverneur



COMMISSIONERS

Anne Ashmore-Hudson, Ph.D., Chair WARD 1
Rhona Wolfe Friedman, J.D., Vice Chair WARD 2
Marvin Joseph Bowser WARD 7
Christopher Cowan WARD 3
Lou Hill Davidson WARD 2
Rebecca Fishman WARD 2
Rogelio Maxwell WARD 3
Tendani Mpulubusi WARD 8
Marsha Ralls WARD 2
Bernard Richardson WARD 1
Deborah Royster WARD 4
Michael R. Sonnenreich WARD 2
Judith Terra WARD 4
Lavinia Wohlfarth WARD 5

DCCA STAFF

Gloria Nauden Executive Director
Moshe Adams Legislative and Grants Assistant
Kendra Anderson Program Assistant
Curtia Ashton Staff Assistant/Human Resources Advisor
Beth Baldwin Art Bank Coordinator
Charles Barzon Program Assistant
Ebony Blanks Arts Program Coordinator
Catherine Cleary Legislative and Grants Manager
Rachel Dickerson Public Art Manager
Deirdre Ehlen DC Creates Public Art Coordinator
Lamont A. Harrell Director of Partnerships and Development
Charlese Jennings Information Specialist
Dolores Kendrick Poet Laureate of the District of Columbia
Carell Kent Executive Programs Assistant
Yuyu Kim Graphic Designer/Animator
Rod Little Art Director
Shyree Mezick Executive and Outreach Assistant
Victoria Murray Program Assistant
Carolyn Parker Office Manager
Keona Pearson Legislative and Grants Assistant
Masresha Tadesse Outreach Coordinator
Lisa Richards Toney Arts Program Coordinator

Jessica Chambliss Intern
Leonice Joseph Intern
Andrea S. McPherson Intern
Dwight Ramsay, Jr. Intern
Hyesun Shin Intern
Lance Wray Intern

ARTIFACT

Did you know ...

The DC based restaurant and haven Busboys and Poets was named after Langston Hughes. Hughes was a busboy at the Wardman Hotel while he crafted his literary genius as a poet in Washington, D.C. in the 1920's.

MISSION

Our Mission at The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is to provide grants, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.



DC COMMISSION ON
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

1371 Harvard St. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20009
(202) 724-5613
(202) 724-4493
TTY/TDD
www.dccarts.dc.gov

